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Message Text

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ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FAA-00 EB-07 PER-01

DOTE-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 OMB-01 ABF-01 SSO-00 /057 W
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O 301130Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1189
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 8052

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AEMR, AFSP
SUBJ: RELOCATION OF REGIONAL PERSONNEL

REF: STATE 252545, STATE 256231

1. WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY TO THE PRACTICABILITY OF RE-LOCATING THE OFFICES OF THE FAA AND CAA IN ISTANBUL AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL. THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE SUBMITTED FOR THE DEPART-MENT'S CONSIDERATION.

2. THERE IS NO RPT NO OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE IN THE CONSULATE GENERAL BUILDING AND OFFICES WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND IN NEARBY COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS UNDER PRIVATE LEASE. IN ADDITION TO DELAYS THAT CAN BE EXPECTED IN OBTAINING TELEPHONE SERVICE, SUBSTANTIAL PREPARATORY COSTS FOR INSTALLATION OF PARTITIONS, PAINTING AND OTHER ALTERATIONS, E. G. LIGHTING FIXTURES, SECURITY ASPECTS, ETC. WOULD BE INVOLVED.

3. ATTACHING U.S. CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL STAFF RAISES A PROTOCOL SITUATION THAT COULD CREATE FORESEEABLE PROBLEMS. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THERE IS NO FORMAL CONSULAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND TURKEY, ALSO, ALTHOUGH TURKEY IS NOT A SIGNATORY TO THE AGREEMENT, IT GENERALLY FOLLOWS THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS
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GUIDELINES IN DEALING WITH FOREIGN MISSIONS AND CONSULAR

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ESTABLISHMENTS. CONDEQUENTLY, THE AMERICAN OFFICERS AND
STAFF ASSIGNED TO CONSULAR OFFICES IN TURKEY HAVE NO RPT NO
OFFICIAL OR RECOGNIZED IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES OTHER THAN
THOSE WHICH THE HOST GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO EXTEND ON
A RECIPROCAL BASIS. FOR THIS REASON, IT WAS RECENTLY DECIDED THAT A
MEMBER OF THE U.S. MARINE SECURITY DETAIL WHO WAS INVOLVED
IN A RECENT MINOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WHILE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS
BE TRANSFERRED OUT OF ISTANBUL IN ORDER TO AVOID RISKING THE
POSSIBILITY THAT A FORMAL REQUEST FOR HIS PERSONAL APPEARANCE
IN A CIVIL COURT ACTION WOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE CG FOR
COMPLIANCE.

4. SO FAR AS LIVING CONDITIONS ARE CONCERNED, OBTAINING
SUITABLE QUARTERS IN ISTANBUL WOULD REQUIRE EXTENDED AND
EXHAUSTIVE SEARCHING. INFLATIONARY TRENDS IN TURKEY HAVE
PUSHED PRIVATE RENTALS BEYOND THE MAXIMUM QUARTERS
ALLOWANCES WITH LANDLORDS ASKING AND RECEIVING FROM
$383.33 TO $640.00 FOR APARTMENTS THAT ARE WELL BELOW
ACCEPTABLE AMERICAN STANDARDS.

5. SCHOOL FACILITIES IN ISTANBUL ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE
NINTH GRADE ONLY AND HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND
SCHOOLS AWAY FROM POST. THERE ARE NO BOARDING FACILITIES
OPERATED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DOD-SPONSORED SCHOOL IN
ANKARA.

6. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEN COORDINATED WITH THE CONSULATE
GENERAL IN ISTANBUL.
MACOMBER

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